

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:

1. An imaging system wherein an electrostatic latent image is formed on a latent image carrier and a color image is formed by putting colors one upon another  
5 using a black toner or other toners of two or more colors, characterized in that at least a toner having a largest work function is first transferred onto an intermediate transfer medium.

2. The imaging system according to claim 1,  
10 characterized in that toner images are successively formed on the intermediate transfer medium, and the thus formed toner images are fixed after transfer onto the recording material by one operation.

3. The imaging system according to claim 1 or 2,  
15 characterized in that developing units for two or more colors are located such that development occurs in descending work function order to form images, and the images are successively transferred onto the intermediate transfer medium at a transfer voltage fed from a constant-  
20 voltage power supply.

4. The imaging system according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized by being free from any cleaner for removal of toner residues remaining on the latent image carrier after transfer.

25 5. The imaging system according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that an average quantity of charges on a toner having the same polarity as the latent image carrier has an absolute value of  $16 \mu\text{C/g}$  or

lower, and the number of toner particles contained in the toners on the latent image carrier after development and transferred onto a recording material and opposite in polarity to the electrostatic latent image on a photo  
5 conductor is 5% or lower.

6. The imaging system according to any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that an image carrier with an image being to be formed is an organic photo conductor.

7. The imaging system according to any one of  
10 claims 1 to 6, characterized by use of a negatively charged toner and a reversal development unit.

8. The imaging system according to any one of claims 1 to 7, characterized by use of a non-magnetic one-component toner, wherein an amount of the toner developed  
15 on the latent image carrier is controlled to  $0.55 \text{ mg/cm}^2$  or lower.

9. The imaging system according to any one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that a peripheral speed ratio of a development roller to the latent image carrier  
20 is at least 1.1 to 2.5.

10. A toner used with an imaging system wherein an electrostatic latent image is formed on a latent image carrier, and a color image is formed by putting colors one upon another using a black toner or other toners of two or  
25 more colors, characterized in that at least a toner having a largest work function is first transferred onto an intermediate transfer medium, wherein said toner contains as a flowability improver at least a hydrophobic silicon

dioxide particle and a hydrophobic titanium dioxide particle.

11. The toner according to claim 10, characterized in that characterized in that developing units for two or  
5 more colors are located such that development occurs in descending work function order to form images, and the images are successively transferred onto the intermediate transfer medium at a transfer voltage fed from a constant-voltage power supply.

10 12. The toner according to claim 10 or 11, characterized by having a circularity of 0.94 or higher as expressed in terms of  $L_0/L_1$  wherein  $L_1$  is a peripheral length in  $\mu\text{m}$  of a projected image of a toner particle as found by measurement of the projected image and  $L_0$  is a  
15 peripheral length in  $\mu\text{m}$  of a true circle equal in area to the projected image.

13. The toner according to any one of claims 10 to 12, characterized by having a number base average particle diameter of 4.5 to 9  $\mu\text{m}$ .

20 14. The toner according to any one of claims 10 to 13, characterized in that said toner has been obtained by polymerization of at least one of a monomer and an oligomer of a polymerizable organic compound, with a coloring agent contained therein.

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